

## **ECONOMIC INDICATORS** QUEENSLAND

EMBARGO: 11:30AM (CANBERRA TIME) FRI 27 JUNE 1997

### JUNE KEY POINTS

#### AUSTRALIA

##### GOODS AND SERVICES

- The trend estimate of the balance on goods and services recorded a surplus of \$166m in April 1997, an increase of \$29m over the surplus recorded in March 1997. This is the fourteenth consecutive surplus on this balance.
- Exports of goods and services, in trend terms, increased \$70m, or 0.8% from March 1997 to April 1997, continuing the upward trend since September 1996. Imports of goods and services, in trend terms, increased \$41m, or 0.5% from March 1997 to April 1997, continuing the upward trend since August 1996.

#### QUEENSLAND

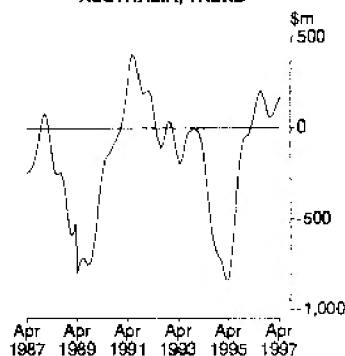
##### UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

- Remained stable, in trend terms, at 9.7% for May 1997. For females, in trend terms, decreased 0.1 percentage point to 9.2% for May 1997. For males, in trend terms, remained stable at 10.1% for May 1997.

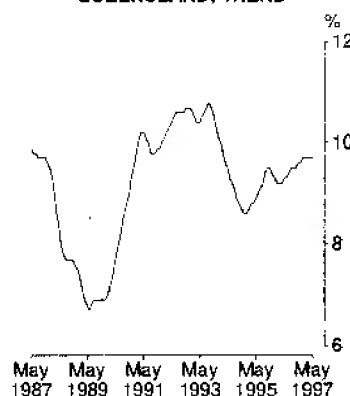
##### DWELLING UNITS APPROVED

- Total dwelling units approved in Queensland, in trend terms, totalled 2,862 in April 1997, increasing 10.5% from April 1996 but decreasing 0.9% from March 1997.

**BALANCE ON GOODS AND SERVICES,  
AUSTRALIA, TREND**



**UNEMPLOYMENT RATE, PERSONS,  
QUEENSLAND, TREND**



#### INQUIRIES

- For further information about these and related statistics, contact the Inquiry Service on 07 3222 6351, or any ABS office.

# ECONOMIC INDICATORS NOTES

## FORTHCOMING ISSUES

### ISSUE

### RELEASE DATE

July 1997

28 July 1997

August 1997

27 August 1997

September 1997

26 September 1997

\*\*\*\*\*

## CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

Nil.

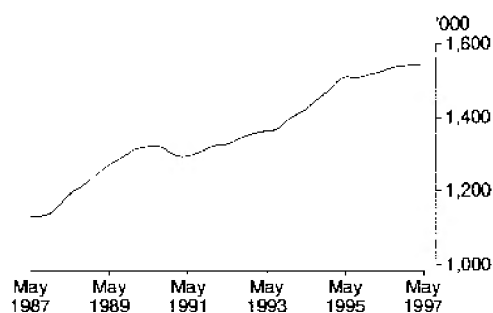
\*\*\*\*\*

BRIAN DOYLE

REGIONAL DIRECTOR, QUEENSLAND

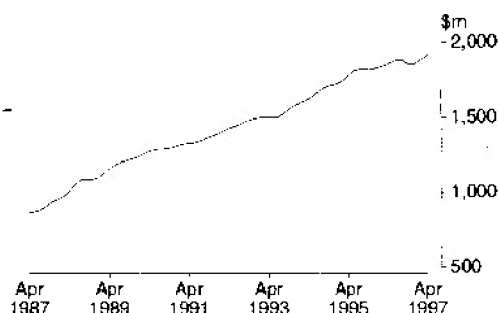
## COMMENTARY

EMPLOYED PERSONS,  
QUEENSLAND, TREND



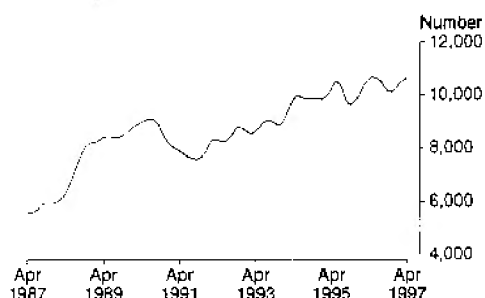
The number of employed persons in Queensland, in trend terms, was 1,546,500 in May 1997, increasing 1.3% from May 1996. Full-time employment for males decreased for the seventh consecutive month, recording a decrease of 1.9% from May 1996 to May 1997. Female full-time employment increased 1.2% for the same period.

RETAIL TRADE TURNOVER,  
QUEENSLAND, TREND



Retail trade turnover in Queensland, in trend terms, increased for the fifth consecutive month, recording \$1,912.2m in April 1997. This was an increase of 3.2% from the April 1996 figure.

NEW MOTOR VEHICLE  
REGISTRATIONS,  
QUEENSLAND, TREND



In trend terms, the number of new motor vehicle registrations in Queensland for April 1997 was 10,667, an increase of 0.3% from April 1996 and 0.7% from March 1997.

# LIST OF TABLES

\*\*\*\*\*

|                              | <i>Table</i> |   | <i>Page</i> |
|------------------------------|--------------|---|-------------|
| MAJOR INDICATORS, AUSTRALIA  | 1            | Australian National Accounts              | 7           |
|                              |              | Balance on Current Account                | 6           |
|                              |              | Company Profits                           | 7           |
|                              |              | Composite Leading Indicator               | 7           |
|                              |              | Exchange Rate Levels                      | 6           |
|                              |              | Foreign Investment in Australia           | 6           |
|                              |              | International Trade in Goods and Services | 6           |
| MAJOR INDICATORS, QUEENSLAND | 2            | Bankruptcies                              | 9           |
|                              |              | Final Consumption Expenditure             | 8           |
|                              |              | Foreign Trade                             | 9           |
|                              |              | Gross Fixed Capital Expenditure           | 8           |
|                              |              | Gross State Product - Income Based        | 8           |
|                              |              | Interstate Trade                          | 9           |
|                              |              | Private New Capital Expenditure           | 8           |
|                              |              | State Final Demand                        | 8           |
|                              |              | Total Business Names Registered           | 9           |
| PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION   | 3            | Indexes of Manufacturing Gross Product    | 10          |
|                              |              | Mineral Exploration                       | 11          |
|                              |              | Mineral Production                        | 11          |
|                              |              | New Motor Vehicle Registrations           | 11          |
|                              |              | Retail Trade Turnover                     | 11          |
|                              |              | Short-term Accommodation                  | 10          |
| LABOUR AND DEMOGRAPHY        | 4            | Average Weekly Earnings                   | 13          |
|                              |              | Award Rates of Pay Indexes                | 14          |
|                              |              | Employed Persons                          | 12          |
|                              |              | Employed Wage and Salary Earners          | 13          |
|                              |              | Estimated Resident Population             | 14          |
|                              |              | Estimated Resident Population at 30 June  | 14          |
|                              |              | Industrial Disputes                       | 14          |
|                              |              | Industry of Employed Persons              | 13          |
|                              |              | Job Vacancies                             | 13          |
|                              |              | Labour and Demography                     | 12          |
|                              |              | Overtime                                  | 13          |
|                              |              | Participation Rates                       | 12          |
|                              |              | Population Growth                         | 14          |
|                              |              | Short-term Overseas Movement              | 14          |
|                              |              | Unemployed Persons                        | 12          |
|                              |              | Unemployment Rates                        | 12          |
| BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION    | 5            | Building Approvals                        | 15          |
|                              |              | Dwelling Unit Commencements               | 15          |
|                              |              | Engineering Construction                  | 15          |

# LIST OF TABLES *continued*

|  | <i>Table</i> |   | <i>Page</i> |
|--|--------------|---|-------------|
| PRICE INDEXES                                    | 6            | Articles Produced by Manufacturing Industry | 16          |
|  |              | Consumer Price Index                        | 16          |
|  |              | Established House Index                     | 16          |
|  |              | Export Price Index                          | 16          |
|  |              | Farmers' Terms of Trade                     | 16          |
|  |              | Import Price Index                          | 16          |
|  |              | Materials Used in Building Other than House | 16          |
|  |              | Materials Used in House Building            | 16          |
|  |              | Materials Used in Manufacturing Industry    | 16          |
|  |              | Prices Received by Farmers                  | 16          |
|  |              | Prices Paid by Farmers                      | 16          |
| BANKING AND FINANCE                              | 7            | Banking Deposits                            | 17          |
|  |              | Banking Loans                               | 17          |
|  |              | Building Society Lending Operations         | 17          |
|  |              | Commercial Finance Commitments              | 17          |
|  |              | Housing Finance for Owner Occupation        | 17          |
|  |              | Interest Rates                              | 17          |
|  |              | Lease Finance Commitments                   | 17          |
|  |              | Personal Finance Commitments                | 17          |
| BUSINESS EXPECTATIONS (SHORT AND<br>MEDIUM TERM) | 8            | Capital Expenditure                         | 18          |
|  |              | Employment                                  | 18          |
|  |              | International Trade                         | 18          |
|  |              | Investment                                  | 18          |
|  |              | Operating Expenses                          | 18          |
|  |              | Sales                                       | 18          |
|  |              | Trading Performance                         | 18          |



# MAJOR INDICATORS—Australia

## INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN GOODS AND SERVICES, Summary .....

### EXPORTS ..... IMPORTS .....

| Month | Balance on<br>goods and<br>services | Total<br>goods<br>and<br>services | Total<br>goods | Rural<br>goods | Non-<br>rural<br>goods | Total<br>services | Total<br>goods<br>and<br>services | Total<br>goods | Con-<br>sumption<br>goods | Capital<br>goods | Inter-<br>mediate<br>and<br>other<br>goods | Total<br>services |
|-------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|------------------|--|-------------------|
|-------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|------------------|--|-------------------|

### TREND (\$ million)

|             |     |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |
|-------------|-----|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| <b>1997</b> |     |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| January     | 79  | 8 636 | 6 539 | 1 905 | 4 634 | 2 097 | 8 557 | 6 640 | 1 765 | 1 589 | 3 286 | 1 917 |
| February    | 109 | 8 749 | 6 622 | 1 950 | 4 672 | 2 127 | 8 640 | 6 703 | 1 777 | 1 634 | 3 292 | 1 937 |
| March       | 137 | 8 841 | 6 688 | 1 984 | 4 704 | 2 153 | 8 704 | 6 749 | 1 788 | 1 674 | 3 287 | 1 955 |
| April       | 166 | 8 911 | 6 738 | 2 011 | 4 727 | 2 173 | 8 745 | 6 777 | 1 795 | 1 713 | 3 269 | 1 968 |

### % CHANGE FROM CORRESPONDING PERIOD OF PREVIOUS YEAR

|             |    |     |     |     |     |      |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|-------------|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| <b>1997</b> |    |     |     |     |     |      |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| April       | .. | 6.0 | 4.7 | 8.2 | 3.3 | 10.2 | 5.0 | 4.4 | 9.1 | 1.1 | 3.7 | 7.1 |

### BALANCE ON CURRENT ACCOUNT

### FOREIGN INVESTMENT IN AUSTRALIA<sup>1</sup>.....

### EXCHANGE RATE LEVELS<sup>2</sup>.....

### TREND...

### ORIGINAL .....

### ORIGINAL .....

| Quarter     | \$m    | Official | Non-official | Net foreign debt | \$US/\$A | Yen/\$A | Trade-weighted index <sup>3</sup> |
|-------------|--------|----------|--------------|------------------|----------|---------|-----------------------------------|
|             | \$m    | \$m      | \$m          | \$m              |          |         |                                   |
| <b>1996</b> |        |          |              |                  |          |         |                                   |
| June        | -4 521 | 78 125   | 359 414      | 187 535          | 0.7918   | 85.12   | 58.1                              |
| September   | -4 500 | 80 348   | 365 737      | 195 833          | 0.7884   | 85.92   | 58.5                              |
| December    | -4 753 | 84 354   | 378 487      | 199 197          | 0.7953   | 89.72   | 59.4                              |
| <b>1997</b> |        |          |              |                  |          |         |                                   |
| March       | -4 871 | 84 356   | 382 570      | 199 902          | 0.7783   | 94.23   | 60.5                              |

### % CHANGE FROM CORRESPONDING PERIOD OF PREVIOUS YEAR

|             |    |     |     |     |     |      |     |
|-------------|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|
| <b>1997</b> |    |     |     |     |     |      |     |
| March       | .. | 7.6 | 8.7 | 7.3 | 2.9 | 18.0 | 6.5 |

<sup>1</sup> At end of period.

<sup>2</sup> Source: Reserve Bank of Australia.

<sup>3</sup> Base: May 1970 = 100.0

MAJOR INDICATORS—Australia *continued*AUSTRALIA—NATIONAL ACCOUNTS<sup>1</sup>

|                    | Final consumption expenditure |            | Gross fixed capital expenditure |        | Exports of goods and services | Imports of goods and services | Gross non-farm product – income based | Gross domestic product – income based |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|------------|---------------------------------|--------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Quarter            | Private                       | Government | Private                         | Public |                               |                               |                                       |                                       |
| TREND (\$ million) |                               |            |                                 |        |                               |                               |                                       |                                       |
| 1996               |                               |            |                                 |        |                               |                               |                                       |                                       |
| June               | 65 823                        | 18 095     | 19 387                          | 4 578  | 25 490                        | 24 556                        | 106 079                               | 109 885                               |
| September          | 66 127                        | 18 035     | 19 915                          | 4 595  | 25 816                        | 25 039                        | 106 770                               | 110 668                               |
| December           | 66 494                        | 18 119     | 20 343                          | 4 753  | 26 183                        | 25 503                        | 107 698                               | 111 720                               |
| 1997               |                               |            |                                 |        |                               |                               |                                       |                                       |
| March              | 66 873                        | 18 278     | 20 771                          | 4 990  | 26 598                        | 25 987                        | 108 787                               | 112 956                               |

## TREND (% change from corresponding period of previous year)

|             |     |     |      |     |     |     |     |     |
|-------------|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| <b>1997</b> |     |     |      |     |     |     |     |     |
| March       | 2.3 | 0.8 | 10.6 | 5.8 | 6.2 | 8.5 | 3.3 | 3.6 |

## ORIGINAL (\$ million)

|             |        |        |        |       |        |        |         |         |
|-------------|--------|--------|--------|-------|--------|--------|---------|---------|
| <b>1996</b> |        |        |        |       |        |        |         |         |
| June        | 65 178 | 18 613 | 20 241 | 5 994 | 25 064 | 24 296 | 105 242 | 107 816 |
| September   | 65 875 | 17 957 | 19 919 | 3 665 | 25 601 | 25 937 | 106 291 | 108 975 |
| December    | 69 742 | 18 387 | 21 419 | 4 601 | 26 804 | 26 063 | 111 633 | 119 524 |
| <b>1997</b> |        |        |        |       |        |        |         |         |
| March       | 63 956 | 17 426 | 18 924 | 4 607 | 26 701 | 24 628 | 105 083 | 107 918 |

## ORIGINAL (% change from corresponding period of previous year)

|             |     |      |      |     |     |     |     |     |
|-------------|-----|------|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| <b>1997</b> |     |      |      |     |     |     |     |     |
| March       | 2.1 | -0.1 | 11.0 | 5.3 | 6.1 | 6.5 | 2.5 | 2.4 |

AUSTRALIA—NATIONAL ACCOUNTS<sup>1</sup>COMPOSITE LEADING INDICATOR<sup>2</sup>

## COMPANY PROFITS

|           | Gross domestic product – average |  | Deviation from long-term trend |       |
|-----------|----------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|-------|
| Quarter   | \$m                              |  | %                              | \$m   |
| TREND     |                                  |  |                                |       |
| 1996      |                                  |  |                                |       |
| June      | 108 692                          |  | ..                             | 5 738 |
| September | 109 277                          |  | ..                             | 5 790 |
| December  | 109 999                          |  | ..                             | 5 939 |
| 1997      |                                  |  |                                |       |
| March     | 110 926                          |  | ..                             | 6 141 |

## TREND (% change from corresponding period of previous year)

|             |     |  |    |  |     |
|-------------|-----|--|----|--|-----|
| <b>1997</b> |     |  |    |  |     |
| March       | 2.8 |  | .. |  | 2.6 |

## ORIGINAL

|             |         |  |       |  |       |
|-------------|---------|--|-------|--|-------|
| <b>1996</b> |         |  |       |  |       |
| June        | 107 112 |  | -0.16 |  | 4 794 |
| September   | 107 875 |  | 0.07  |  | 6 056 |
| December    | 117 785 |  | 0.28  |  | 7 555 |
| <b>1997</b> |         |  |       |  |       |
| March       | 105 557 |  | 0.39  |  | 4 929 |

## ORIGINAL (% change from corresponding period of previous year)

|             |     |  |    |  |       |
|-------------|-----|--|----|--|-------|
| <b>1997</b> |     |  |    |  |       |
| March       | 1.7 |  | .. |  | -11.1 |

<sup>1</sup> At average 1989-90 prices.<sup>2</sup> See explanatory note 6, page 19.



## MAJOR INDICATORS—Queensland

| Quarter            | FINAL CONSUMPTION<br>EXPENDITURE <sup>1</sup> ..... |            | GROSS FIXED<br>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE <sup>1</sup> |        | STATE FINAL<br>DEMAND <sup>1</sup> | GROSS STATE<br>PRODUCT—<br>INCOME BASED <sup>1</sup> |
|--------------------|---|------------|---|--------|------------------------------------|--|
|                    | Private   | Government | Private   | Public |                                    |  |
| TREND (\$ million) |   |            |   |        |                                    |  |
| <b>1996</b>        |   |            |   |        |                                    |  |
| March              | 10 988  | 2 967      | 3 362   | 1 105  | 18 322                             | 17 665   |
| June               | 11 080  | 2 877      | 3 558   | 1 070  | 18 585                             | 17 897   |
| September          | 11 134  | 2 876      | 3 775   | 976    | 18 761                             | 18 126   |
| December           | 11 173  | 2 884      | 3 957   | 884    | 18 898                             | 18 326   |

|   |     |     |      |       |     |     |
|---|-----|-----|------|-------|-----|-----|
| TREND (% change from corresponding period of previous year) |     |     |      |       |     |     |
| <b>1996</b>   |     |     |      |       |     |     |
| December  | 2.8 | 1.9 | 18.5 | -19.0 | 4.2 | 5.0 |

|                       |        |       |       |       |        |        |
|-----------------------|--------|-------|-------|-------|--------|--------|
| ORIGINAL (\$ million) |        |       |       |       |        |        |
| <b>1996</b>           |        |       |       |       |        |        |
| March                 | 10 580 | 2 774 | 3 022 | 980   | 17 356 | 17 723 |
| June                  | 10 898 | 2 997 | 3 647 | 1 457 | 18 999 | 17 938 |
| September             | 11 166 | 2 806 | 3 800 | 767   | 18 539 | 18 047 |
| December              | 11 741 | 2 972 | 4 250 | 865   | 19 828 | 18 393 |

|  |     |     |      |       |     |     |
|--|-----|-----|------|-------|-----|-----|
| ORIGINAL (% change from corresponding period of previous year) |     |     |      |       |     |     |
| <b>1996</b>  |     |     |      |       |     |     |
| December   | 2.6 | 5.8 | 20.4 | -12.4 | 5.7 | 6.2 |

### PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE.....

| Quarter            | Building and structures | Equipment, plant and machinery | Total |
|--------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|-------|
| TREND (\$ million) |                         |                                |       |
| <b>1996</b>        |                         |                                |       |
| June               | 470                     | 1 051                          | 1 522 |
| September          | 592                     | 1 084                          | 1 576 |
| December           | 704                     | 1 110                          | 1 814 |

|             |     |       |       |
|-------------|-----|-------|-------|
| <b>1997</b> |     |       |       |
| March       | 796 | 1 134 | 1 930 |

|   |       |      |      |
|---|-------|------|------|
| TREND (% change from corresponding period of previous year) |       |      |      |
| <b>1997</b>   |       |      |      |
| March   | 118.2 | 12.0 | 40.2 |

|                       |     |       |       |
|-----------------------|-----|-------|-------|
| ORIGINAL (\$ million) |     |       |       |
| <b>1996</b>           |     |       |       |
| June                  | 590 | 1 218 | 1 808 |
| September             | 592 | 1 049 | 1 640 |
| December              | 694 | 1 092 | 1 786 |

|             |     |       |       |
|-------------|-----|-------|-------|
| <b>1997</b> |     |       |       |
| March       | 697 | 1 009 | 1 706 |

|  |       |     |      |
|--|-------|-----|------|
| ORIGINAL (% change from corresponding period of previous year) |       |     |      |
| <b>1997</b>  |       |     |      |
| March  | 171.7 | 9.6 | 44.9 |

<sup>1</sup> At average 1989-90 prices.





# MAJOR INDICATORS—Queensland *continued*

| TOTAL BUSINESS  |         |                           |                               |         |
|---|---------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|---------|
| NAMES REGISTERED <sup>1</sup>                         |         | BANKRUPTCIES <sup>2</sup> | INTERSTATE TRADE <sup>3</sup> |         |
|   |         |                           | Exports                       | Imports |
| Quarter   | No.     | No.                       | \$m                           | \$m     |
|   |         |                           |                               |         |
| 1996  |         |                           |                               |         |
| June  | 176 658 | 1 051                     | 1 668                         | 3 395   |
| September   | 176 868 | 1 225                     | 1 528                         | 3 372   |
| December  | 178 440 | 1 156                     | 1 479                         | 3 478   |
| 1997  |         |                           |                               |         |
| March   | 180 829 | 1 443                     | 1 389                         | 3 191   |
|   |         |                           |                               |         |
| % CHANGE (from corresponding period of previous year) |         |                           |                               |         |
| 1996  |         |                           |                               |         |
| December  | 2.3     | 29.2                      | 0.2                           | 0.1     |
| 1997  |         |                           |                               |         |
| March   | 2.8     | 37.2                      | -8.4                          | 2.4     |

| FOREIGN TRADE.....                                    |         |         |
|---|---------|---------|
| Month   | Exports | Imports |
|   | \$m     | \$m     |
| <b>1997</b>   |         |         |
| January   | 960     | 784     |
| February  | 1 111   | 682     |
| March   | 896     | 666     |
| April   | 1 176   | 706     |
| % CHANGE (from corresponding period of previous year) |         |         |
| <b>1997</b>   |         |         |
| March   | -15.8   | -1.5    |
| April   | 10.2    | 1.4     |

<sup>1</sup> Stock at end of period. Source: Office of Consumer Affairs.

<sup>2</sup> Source: Insolvency and Trustee Service Australia.

<sup>3</sup> Source: Queensland Government Statistician.



## PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION

### AUSTRALIA—INDEXES OF MANUFACTURING GROSS PRODUCT<sup>1</sup>

| Quarter  | Food, beverages<br>and tobacco | Textiles, clothing,<br>footwear and leather | Chemicals, petroleum<br>and coal | Metal<br>products | Machinery and<br>equipment | All groups |
|--|--------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|------------|
| TREND  |                                |   |                                  |                   |                            |            |
| <b>1996</b>  |                                |   |                                  |                   |                            |            |
| June   | 104.4                          | 81.1  | 113.7                            | 98.8              | 121.6                      | 104.8      |
| September  | 104.2                          | 83.2  | 112.6                            | 98.5              | 121.7                      | 104.6      |
| December   | 104.1                          | 85.3  | 110.6                            | 96.8              | 120.7                      | 103.9      |
| <b>1997</b>  |                                |   |                                  |                   |                            |            |
| March  | 103.8                          | 88.8  | 109.1                            | 94.9              | 120.0                      | 103.3      |
| TREND (% change from corresponding period of previous year)    |                                |   |                                  |                   |                            |            |
| <b>1997</b>  |                                |   |                                  |                   |                            |            |
| March  | -1.6                           | 6.9   | -3.3                             | -3.6              | 1.2                        | -1.0       |
| ORIGINAL   |                                |   |                                  |                   |                            |            |
| <b>1996</b>  |                                |   |                                  |                   |                            |            |
| June   | 99.3                           | 78.2  | 115.1                            | 93.6              | 119.4                      | 101.8      |
| September  | 103.7                          | 85.9  | 112.5                            | 104.4             | 130.4                      | 108.3      |
| December   | 114.8                          | 89.1  | 113.5                            | 99.1              | 119.9                      | 107.9      |
| <b>1997</b>  |                                |   |                                  |                   |                            |            |
| March  | 97.5                           | 84.2  | 105.7                            | 88.0              | 116.4                      | 98.2       |
| ORIGINAL (% change from corresponding period of previous year) |                                |   |                                  |                   |                            |            |
| <b>1997</b>  |                                |   |                                  |                   |                            |            |
| March  | -5.0                           | 7.3   | -5.5                             | -7.8              | 1.9                        | -2.3       |

### QUEENSLAND—SHORT-TERM ACCOMMODATION

#### LICENSED HOTELS, MOTELS WITH FACILITIES

#### SELF CONTAINED UNITS, FLATS AND HOUSES

| Quarter   | Rooms<br>available<br>'000 | Room nights<br>occupied<br>'000 | Room occupancy<br>rate<br>% | Takings from<br>accommodation<br>\$m | Units<br>available<br>'000 | Unit nights<br>occupied<br>'000 | Unit occupancy<br>rate<br>% | Takings from<br>accommodation<br>\$m |
|---|----------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>1996</b>   |                            |                                 |                             |                                      |                            |                                 |                             |                                      |
| June  | 43.7                       | 2 278                           | 57.6                        | 218.2                                | 18.8                       | 846                             | 49.4                        | 52.6                                 |
| September   | 43.5                       | 2 617                           | 65.5                        | 252.9                                | 19.4                       | 1 259                           | 70.7                        | 80.8                                 |
| December  | 44.4                       | 2 557                           | 62.7                        | 262.6                                | 20.2                       | 1 142                           | 61.7                        | 81.6                                 |
| <b>1997</b>   |                            |                                 |                             |                                      |                            |                                 |                             |                                      |
| March   | 44.5                       | 2 289                           | 57.3                        | 229.9                                | 20.0                       | 1 028                           | 57.3                        | 75.9                                 |
| % CHANGE (from corresponding period of previous year) |                            |                                 |                             |                                      |                            |                                 |                             |                                      |
| <b>1996</b>   |                            |                                 |                             |                                      |                            |                                 |                             |                                      |
| December  | 5.2                        | 4.4                             | ..                          | 6.9                                  | 7.3                        | 7.2                             | ..                          | 15.2                                 |
| <b>1997</b>   |                            |                                 |                             |                                      |                            |                                 |                             |                                      |
| March   | 4.2                        | 0.8                             | ..                          | 1.3                                  | 6.0                        | 2.8                             | ..                          | 10.3                                 |

<sup>1</sup> At average 1989-90 prices. Base: 1989-90=100.0.

PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION *continued*

## QUEENSLAND.....

## MINERAL PRODUCTION.....

MINERAL  
EXPLORATION

|   | <i>Black coal<br/>(saleable)<sup>1</sup></i> | <i>Copper<sup>2</sup></i> | <i>Gold<sup>2</sup></i> | <i>Total<sup>2</sup></i> |            |
|---|--|---------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|------------|
| <i>Quarter</i>  | <i>'000 tonnes</i>                           | <i>'000 tonnes</i>        | <i>'000 kg</i>          | <i>\$m</i>               | <i>\$m</i> |
| <b>1996</b>   |  |                           |                         |                          |            |
| June  | 23 755.0                                     | 73.9                      | 6.7                     | 1 401.0                  | 56.9       |
| September   | 23 945.0                                     | 83.8                      | 6.3                     | 1 339.0                  | 38.3       |
| December  | 25 277.0                                     | 75.1                      | 7.3                     | 1 368.0                  | 43.0       |
| <b>1997</b>   |  |                           |                         |                          |            |
| March   | 24 149.0                                     | 65.3                      | 6.4                     | 1 361.0                  | n.y.a.     |
| % CHANGE (from corresponding period of previous year) |  |                           |                         |                          |            |
| <b>1996</b>   |  |                           |                         |                          |            |
| December  | 15.8   | 19.5                      | -13.5                   | -2.7                     | 9.1        |
| <b>1997</b>   |  |                           |                         |                          |            |
| March   | 9.4  | 0.9                       | -7.6                    | 0.6                      | n.y.a.     |

## QUEENSLAND.....

## RETAIL TRADE TURNOVER

NEW MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS<sup>3</sup>

|   |            | <i>Passenger vehicles</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|---|------------|---------------------------|--------------|
| <i>Month</i>  | <i>\$m</i> | <i>No.</i>                | <i>No.</i>   |
| <b>TREND</b>  |            |                           |              |
| <b>1997</b>   |            |                           |              |
| January   | 1 866.4    | 8 229                     | 10 366       |
| February  | 1 882.1    | 8 346                     | 10 484       |
| March   | 1 897.5    | 8 457                     | 10 588       |
| April   | 1 912.2    | 8 550                     | 10 667       |
| <b>TREND (% change from corresponding period of previous year)</b>    |            |                           |              |
| <b>1997</b>   |            |                           |              |
| March   | 3.0        | 1.5                       | 0.9          |
| April   | 3.2        | 1.0                       | 0.3          |
| <b>ORIGINAL</b>   |            |                           |              |
| <b>1997</b>   |            |                           |              |
| January   | 1 897.4    | 6 871                     | 8 552        |
| February  | 1 666.1    | 7 832                     | 9 823        |
| March   | 1 804.9    | 8 564                     | 10 619       |
| April   | 1 789.4    | 8 398                     | 10 521       |
| <b>ORIGINAL (% change from corresponding period of previous year)</b> |            |                           |              |
| <b>1997</b>   |            |                           |              |
| March   | 2.5        | -1.3                      | -3.4         |
| April   | 4.1        | 13.3                      | 11.1         |

<sup>1</sup> Source: Queensland Coal Board.<sup>2</sup> Source: Queensland Department of Mines and Energy.<sup>3</sup> Excluding motor cycles, mobile equipment and trailers.



# LABOUR AND DEMOGRAPHY—Queensland

## UNEMPLOYMENT RATE .....

## PARTICIPATION RATE.....

| Month       | Males | Females | Persons | Persons aged 15<br>to 19 years | Males | Females | Persons |
|-------------|-------|---------|---------|--------------------------------|-------|---------|---------|
|             | %     | %       | %       | %                              | %     | %       | %       |
| <b>1997</b> |       |         |         |                                |       |         |         |
| February    | 10.0  | 9.4     | 9.7     | n.a.                           | 74.1  | 55.0    | 64.5    |
| March       | 10.1  | 9.3     | 9.7     | n.a.                           | 73.9  | 55.0    | 64.4    |
| April       | 10.1  | 9.3     | 9.7     | n.a.                           | 73.7  | 55.0    | 64.3    |
| May         | 10.1  | 9.2     | 9.7     | n.a.                           | 73.6  | 55.0    | 64.2    |

### TREND

### ORIGINAL

|             |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
|-------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| <b>1997</b> |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| February    | 10.8 | 10.5 | 10.7 | 24.8 | 74.3 | 55.9 | 65.0 |
| March       | 11.3 | 9.6  | 10.6 | 24.1 | 74.1 | 55.2 | 64.6 |
| April       | 10.3 | 9.1  | 9.8  | 20.7 | 73.7 | 54.9 | 64.2 |
| May         | 9.9  | 9.6  | 9.8  | 21.5 | 73.4 | 55.0 | 64.1 |

## EMPLOYED PERSONS.....

## UNEMPLOYED PERSONS...

PERSONS IN  
THE LABOUR  
FORCE

### FULL-TIME.....

### PART-TIME.....

### TOTAL

| Month       | Males | Females | Males | Females | Persons | Males | Females | Persons |
|-------------|-------|---------|-------|---------|---------|-------|---------|---------|
| <b>1997</b> |       |         |       |         |         |       |         |         |
| February    | 773.3 | 376.0   | 103.6 | 291.4   | 1 544.3 | 97.2  | 69.3    | 166.5   |
| March       | 770.5 | 375.4   | 105.1 | 294.1   | 1 545.1 | 98.0  | 68.8    | 166.8   |
| April       | 768.2 | 375.0   | 106.6 | 296.2   | 1 545.9 | 98.1  | 68.4    | 166.6   |
| May         | 766.6 | 374.8   | 107.6 | 297.5   | 1 546.5 | 98.3  | 68.3    | 166.6   |

### TREND (% change from corresponding period of previous year)

|             |      |     |     |     |     |      |     |     |
|-------------|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|
| <b>1997</b> |      |     |     |     |     |      |     |     |
| May         | -1.9 | 1.2 | 8.5 | 7.6 | 1.3 | 10.6 | 2.1 | 6.9 |

### ORIGINAL ('000)

|             |       |       |       |       |         |       |      |       |
|-------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------|-------|------|-------|
| <b>1997</b> |       |       |       |       |         |       |      |       |
| February    | 773.9 | 376.6 | 97.1  | 293.1 | 1 540.6 | 105.7 | 78.7 | 184.5 |
| March       | 756.6 | 374.4 | 109.0 | 295.6 | 1 535.6 | 110.4 | 71.3 | 181.8 |
| April       | 762.4 | 369.8 | 109.0 | 301.4 | 1 542.6 | 100.6 | 67.4 | 167.9 |
| May         | 767.6 | 373.2 | 107.0 | 295.9 | 1 543.7 | 95.6  | 71.3 | 166.9 |

### ORIGINAL (% change from corresponding period of previous year)

|             |   |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|-------------|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| <b>1997</b> |   |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| May         | - | 1.1 | 8.4 | 6.8 | 1.3 | 8.2 | 4.3 | 6.5 |

## INDUSTRY OF EMPLOYED PERSONS.....

|   | Mining | Manufacturing | Construction | Wholesale and retail trade | Accommodation, cafes and restaurants | Transport and storage | Finance and insurance | Property and business services | Government administration and defence | Education | Health and community services | Other | Total   |
|---|--------|---------------|--------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------|-------|---------|
| Quarter   | '000   | '000          | '000         | '000                       | '000                                 | '000                  | '000                  | '000                           | '000                                  | '000      | '000                          | '000  | '000    |
| <b>1996</b>   |        |               |              |                            |                                      |                       |                       |                                |                                       |           |                               |       |         |
| May   | 21.9   | 173.8         | 123.0        | 323.3                      | 76.0                                 | 86.7                  | 48.1                  | 137.0                          | 66.7                                  | 112.5     | 137.5                         | 217.5 | 1 524.0 |
| August  | 19.7   | 165.4         | 128.8        | 326.1                      | 81.8                                 | 87.3                  | 46.9                  | 138.2                          | 62.1                                  | 107.8     | 139.6                         | 222.9 | 1 526.6 |
| November  | 20.6   | 168.8         | 129.9        | 328.6                      | 86.3                                 | 83.9                  | 47.7                  | 147.6                          | 65.3                                  | 108.6     | 147.4                         | 215.4 | 1 550.1 |
| <b>1997</b>   |        |               |              |                            |                                      |                       |                       |                                |                                       |           |                               |       |         |
| February  | 15.3   | 171.8         | 127.1        | 334.6                      | 88.6                                 | 90.5                  | 45.7                  | 140.7                          | 66.2                                  | 106.0     | 138.2                         | 216.0 | 1 540.7 |
| % CHANGE (from corresponding period of previous year) |        |               |              |                            |                                      |                       |                       |                                |                                       |           |                               |       |         |
| <b>1997</b>   |        |               |              |                            |                                      |                       |                       |                                |                                       |           |                               |       |         |
| February  | -9.5   | -6.4          | -0.7         | 3.6                        | 20.9                                 | 11.2                  | 1.6                   | -4.9                           | -2.8                                  | 5.1       | 1.2                           | 3.2   | 1.8     |

## EMPLOYED WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS.....

## PRIVATE

## GOVERNMENT.....

|             | Total | Commonwealth | State | Local | Total |
|-------------|-------|--------------|-------|-------|-------|
| Month       | '000  | '000         | '000  | '000  | '000  |
| <b>1994</b> |       |              |       |       |       |
| December    | 719.1 | 47.5         | 193.4 | 32.7  | 273.6 |
| <b>1995</b> |       |              |       |       |       |
| January     | 726.6 | 45.7         | 186.1 | 32.7  | 264.6 |
| February    | 740.1 | 45.4         | 191.7 | 33.4  | 270.4 |
| March       | 741.6 | 45.5         | 193.1 | 33.8  | 272.4 |

## % CHANGE (from corresponding period of previous year)

|             |     |     |      |     |      |
|-------------|-----|-----|------|-----|------|
| <b>1995</b> |     |     |      |     |      |
| March       | 6.8 | 1.3 | -1.1 | 0.3 | -0.6 |

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS  
(full-time adult)

## JOB VACANCIES

## OVERTIME.....

|             | Males  | Females |      | Average weekly hours per employee |
|-------------|--------|---------|------|-----------------------------------|
| Quarter     | \$     |         | '000 | Hours                             |
| <b>1996</b> |        |         |      |                                   |
| May         | 662.00 | 553.70  | 7.3  | 1.20                              |
| August      | 665.60 | 569.80  | 9.0  | 0.97                              |
| November    | 679.00 | 579.80  | 9.0  | 1.01                              |
| <b>1997</b> |        |         |      |                                   |
| February    | 697.20 | 581.80  | 12.2 | 0.99                              |

## % CHANGE (from corresponding quarter of previous year)

|             |     |     |      |      |
|-------------|-----|-----|------|------|
| <b>1996</b> |     |     |      |      |
| November    | 3.9 | 5.1 | 32.4 | -3.8 |
| <b>1997</b> |     |     |      |      |
| February    | 7.2 | 5.0 | 69.4 | -6.6 |



# LABOUR AND DEMOGRAPHY—Queensland *continued*

## ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION

## POPULATION GROWTH DURING PERIOD.....

|                |             | <i>Natural increase</i> | <i>Net estimated<br/>interstate migration</i> | <i>Net estimated<br/>overseas migration</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|----------------|-------------|-------------------------|---|---|--------------|
| <i>Quarter</i> | <i>'000</i> | <i>No.</i>              | <i>No.</i>                                    | <i>No.</i>                                  | <i>No.</i>   |
|                |             |                         |   |   |              |
| <b>1996</b>    |             |                         |   |   |              |
| March          | 3 324.2     | 7 512                   | 10 975  | 4 393                                       | 22 880       |
| June           | 3 339.1     | 6 151                   | 8 662   | 2 843                                       | 15 656       |
| September      | 3 357.7     | 5 901                   | 7 947   | 4 717                                       | 18 565       |
| December       | 3 374.3     | 5 636                   | 8 233   | 2 748                                       | 16 617       |

## % CHANGE (from corresponding period of previous year)

|             |     |     |       |      |       |
|-------------|-----|-----|-------|------|-------|
| <b>1996</b> |     |     |       |      |       |
| December    | 2.2 | 0.6 | -18.3 | -3.7 | -10.4 |

## ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION AT 30 JUNE.....

|                | Brisbane <sup>1</sup> | Moreton <sup>1</sup> | Wide Bay-Burnett <sup>1</sup> | Far North <sup>1</sup> | Queensland |
|----------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|------------|
| Year           | '000                  | '000                 | '000                          | '000                   | '000       |
| <b>1992-93</b> | 1 421.6               | 533.7                | 209.3                         | 190.4                  | 3 116.0    |
| <b>1993-94</b> | 1 454.4               | 558.7                | 216.1                         | 195.7                  | 3 196.1    |
| <b>1994-95</b> | 1 488.9               | 584.2                | 222.5                         | 200.9                  | 3 277.1    |
| <b>1995-96</b> | 1 525.5               | 606.0                | 227.7                         | 206.0                  | 3 354.7    |

## INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES

## AWARD RATES OF PAY INDEXES<sup>2</sup>

## SHORT-TERM OVERSEAS MOVEMENT

## FULL-TIME ADULT EMPLOYEES

## ARRIVALS

## DEPARTURES

|          | Working days lost | Males     | Females   |       |       |
|----------|-------------------|-----------|-----------|-------|-------|
| Month    | '000              | Index No. | Index No. | '000  | '000  |
|          |                   |           |           |       |       |
| 1996     |                   |           |           |       |       |
| December | 6.3               | 146.5     | 150.0     | 164.1 | 153.2 |
| 1997     |                   |           |           |       |       |
| January  | 1.7               | 146.5     | 150.2     | 151.4 | 144.8 |
| February | 1.3               | 146.5     | 150.2     | 143.3 | 125.8 |
| March    | 22.5              | 146.6     | 150.3     | 148.4 | 140.9 |

## % CHANGE (from corresponding period of previous year)

|             |    |     |     |     |      |
|-------------|----|-----|-----|-----|------|
| <b>1997</b> |    |     |     |     |      |
| February    | .. | 1.5 | 1.5 | 4.2 | 5.0  |
| March       | .. | 1.5 | 1.4 | 9.4 | 13.4 |

<sup>1</sup> Statistical Division.

<sup>2</sup> Base: June 1985 = 100.0.

## BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION—Queensland

## BUILDING APPROVALS.....

TREND.....

ORIGINAL.....

|              | <i>New houses</i> | <i>Total dwelling units</i> | <i>New houses</i> | <i>New other residential buildings</i> | <i>Total dwelling units</i> | <i>Value of dwelling units approved</i> | <i>Value of non-residential buildings approved</i> | <i>Total value of all building approved</i> |
|--------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|--|-----------------------------|---|--|---|
| <i>Month</i> | <i>No.</i>        | <i>No.</i>                  | <i>No.</i>        | <i>No.</i>                             | <i>No.</i>                  | <i>\$m</i>                              | <i>\$m</i>   | <i>\$m</i>                                  |
| <b>1997</b>  |                   |                             |                   |  |                             |   |  |   |
| January      | 1 948             | 2 859                       | 1 569             | 661                                    | 2 239                       | 213.3                                   | 202.2  | 430.3                                       |
| February     | 1 977             | 2 881                       | 1 804             | 882                                    | 2 700                       | 248.4                                   | 140.2  | 405.8                                       |
| March        | 2 007             | 2 887                       | 1 870             | 972                                    | 2 846                       | 269.4                                   | 144.1  | 432.8                                       |
| April        | 2 028             | 2 862                       | 2 052             | 685                                    | 2 748                       | 258.2                                   | 122.5  | 404.3                                       |

## % CHANGE (from corresponding period of previous year)

|             |     |      |      |      |     |     |       |       |
|-------------|-----|------|------|------|-----|-----|-------|-------|
| <b>1997</b> |     |      |      |      |     |     |       |       |
| April       | 1.0 | 10.5 | -2.1 | 20.4 | 2.7 | 1.0 | -53.2 | -24.8 |

## DWELLING UNIT COMMENCEMENTS.....

## ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION

|                | <i>New houses</i> | <i>New other residential buildings</i> | <i>Value of new residential building</i> | <i>Value of non-residential building</i> | <i>Value of work commenced</i> | <i>Value of work done</i> |
|----------------|-------------------|--|--|--|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <i>Quarter</i> | <i>No.</i>        | <i>No.</i>                             | <i>\$m</i>                               | <i>\$m</i>                               | <i>\$m</i>                     | <i>\$m</i>                |
| <b>1996</b>    |                   |  |  |  |                                |                           |
| March          | 4 835             | 2 042                                  | 666.0                                    | 591.3                                    | 616.0                          | 674.4                     |
| June           | 6 086             | 2 147                                  | 858.5                                    | 731.0                                    | 622.8                          | 801.6                     |
| September      | 5 691             | 2 142                                  | 769.1                                    | 551.2                                    | 1 175.7                        | 889.6                     |
| December       | 6 225             | 2 173                                  | 848.6                                    | 602.2                                    | 1 046.8                        | 907.4                     |

## % CHANGE (from corresponding period of previous year)

|             |      |      |      |      |      |      |
|-------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| <b>1996</b> |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| September   | -7.0 | -6.7 | -1.1 | -6.6 | 24.5 | 23.7 |
| December    | 3.1  | 39.6 | 19.2 | 11.6 | 9.0  | 7.9  |



## PRICE INDEXES

### AUSTRALIA.....

Articles produced by manufacturing industry<sup>1</sup>..... Materials used in manufacturing industry<sup>2</sup> Export<sup>3</sup> Import<sup>3</sup>

| Month       | Food,<br>beverages<br>and tobacco | Basic<br>metal<br>products | Petroleum<br>and coal<br>products | Transport<br>equipment | Fabricated<br>metal<br>products | All groups | Imported<br>materials | Domestic<br>materials | All<br>materials | All groups | All groups |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------|------------|------------|
| <b>1996</b> |                                   |                            |                                   |                        |                                 |            |                       |                       |                  |            |            |
| December    | 126.9                             | 101.7                      | 137.7                             | 121.5                  | 120.8                           | 121.6      | 109.3                 | 103.9                 | 105.8            | 90.7       | 108.0      |
| <b>1997</b> |                                   |                            |                                   |                        |                                 |            |                       |                       |                  |            |            |
| January     | 127.1                             | 102.8                      | 138.9                             | 122.1                  | 120.9                           | 122.0      | 109.8                 | 105.9                 | 107.2            | 91.6       | 108.8      |
| February    | 127.4                             | 103.8                      | 138.7                             | 122.0                  | 121.0                           | 122.3      | 109.4                 | 105.3                 | 106.7            | 92.9       | 109.3      |
| March       | 127.4                             | 103.8                      | 137.3                             | 121.2                  | 121.1                           | 122.2      | 107.4                 | 104.0                 | 105.1            | 91.6       | 107.1      |

% CHANGE (from corresponding period of previous year)

|             |     |      |     |      |     |     |      |      |      |      |      |
|-------------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|-----|------|------|------|------|------|
| <b>1997</b> |     |      |     |      |     |     |      |      |      |      |      |
| March       | 0.9 | -4.7 | 7.9 | -1.5 | 1.3 | 0.7 | -7.0 | -1.0 | -3.3 | -3.8 | -5.6 |

### BRISBANE.....

### QUEENSLAND.....

| Quarter     | Food  | Housing | Transportation | All groups | Established<br>house <sup>2</sup> | Prices received<br>by farmers <sup>3</sup> | Prices paid<br>by farmers <sup>3</sup> | Farmers' terms<br>of trade <sup>4</sup> |
|-------------|-------|---------|----------------|------------|-----------------------------------|--|--|---|
| <b>1996</b> |       |         |                |            |                                   |  |  |   |
| June        | 117.8 | 112.5   | 122.1          | 120.4      | 137.1                             | 109.4                                      | 127.5                                  | 84.3                                    |
| September   | 117.7 | 112.4   | 122.2          | 120.6      | 137.5                             | 104.5                                      | 129.1                                  | 80.5                                    |
| December    | 118.0 | 109.6   | 123.3          | 120.8      | 136.1                             | 101.8                                      | 127.7                                  | 78.3                                    |
| <b>1997</b> |       |         |                |            |                                   |  |  |   |
| March       | 119.8 | 106.4   | 124.4          | 121.5      | n.y.a.                            | 102.0                                      | 126.4                                  | 80.7                                    |

% CHANGE (from corresponding period of previous year)

|             |     |      |     |     |        |      |      |      |
|-------------|-----|------|-----|-----|--------|------|------|------|
| <b>1997</b> |     |      |     |     |        |      |      |      |
| March       | 2.4 | -5.1 | 3.2 | 1.6 | n.y.a. | -9.0 | -1.4 | -6.5 |

### BRISBANE.....

Materials used in house building<sup>2</sup>

Materials used in building other than house<sup>2</sup>.....

| Month       | All groups | Structural steel | Ready-mixed concrete | All groups |
|-------------|------------|------------------|----------------------|------------|
| <b>1997</b> |            |                  |                      |            |
| January     | 115.1      | 136.1            | 103.4                | 115.7      |
| February    | 115.0      | 136.1            | 104.6                | 116.1      |
| March       | 116.0      | 136.1            | 104.7                | 116.5      |
| April       | 116.0      | 134.4            | 105.4                | 116.4      |

% CHANGE (from corresponding period of previous year)

|             |     |      |     |     |
|-------------|-----|------|-----|-----|
| <b>1997</b> |     |      |     |     |
| April       | 1.6 | -2.7 | 1.4 | 1.3 |

<sup>1</sup> Base: 1988-89=100.0.

<sup>2</sup> Base: 1989-90=100.0.

<sup>3</sup> Source: Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics

<sup>4</sup> Base: 1987-88=100.0.



## BANKING AND FINANCE

QUEENSLAND—ALL BANKS<sup>1</sup>.....

## QUEENSLAND—BUILDING SOCIETIES.....

## DEPOSITS.....

## LOANS.....

## LENDING OPERATIONS.....

|              | <i>Term</i> | <i>Other<sup>2</sup></i> | <i>Total</i> | <i>Other lending<sup>3</sup></i> | <i>Loans advanced</i> | <i>Lending commitments unused</i> | <i>Receipts</i> | <i>Withdrawals</i> |
|--------------|-------------|--------------------------|--------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| <i>Month</i> | \$m         | \$m                      | \$m          | \$m                              | \$m                   | \$m                               | \$m             | \$m                |
| <b>1996</b>  |             |                          |              |                                  |                       |                                   |                 |                    |
| December     | 23 751      | 20 375                   | 44 126       | 56 093                           | 61.6                  | 88.3                              | 926.8           | 959.4              |
| <b>1997</b>  |             |                          |              |                                  |                       |                                   |                 |                    |
| January      | 23 562      | 20 650                   | 44 212       | 57 183                           | 61.0                  | 93.2                              | 901.6           | 914.1              |
| February     | 23 420      | 20 873                   | 44 293       | 57 485                           | 58.0                  | 108.5                             | 971.5           | 950.7              |
| March        | 23 347      | 20 927                   | 44 274       | 57 738                           | 63.7                  | 104.9                             | 904.7           | 859.0              |

## % CHANGE (from corresponding period of previous year)

|             |      |      |      |      |       |       |       |       |
|-------------|------|------|------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| <b>1997</b> |      |      |      |      |       |       |       |       |
| March       | 16.0 | 21.6 | 18.6 | 14.6 | -58.6 | -48.8 | -54.4 | -56.6 |

## QUEENSLAND—FINANCE COMMITMENTS.....

## PERSONAL.....

## COMMERCIAL.....

## LEASE

|              | <i>All banks</i> | <i>Credit cooperatives</i> | <i>Finance companies</i> | <i>Other</i> | <i>Total</i> | <i>All banks</i> | <i>Finance companies</i> | <i>Other</i> | <i>Total</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|--------------|------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|--------------|------------------|--------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| <i>Month</i> | \$m              | \$m                        | \$m                      | \$m          | \$m          | \$m              | \$m                      | \$m          | \$m          | \$m          |
| <b>1996</b>  |                  |                            |                          |              |              |                  |                          |              |              |              |
| December     | 365.2            | 36.8                       | 80.0                     | 14.6         | 496.7        | 1 208.0          | 153.5                    | 123.1        | 1 484.6      | 127.8        |
| <b>1997</b>  |                  |                            |                          |              |              |                  |                          |              |              |              |
| January      | 384.0            | 37.0                       | 86.0                     | 12.3         | 519.3        | 1 363.0          | 140.9                    | 50.8         | 1 554.7      | 110.4        |
| February     | 398.6            | 40.1                       | 78.8                     | 14.2         | 531.8        | 1 060.3          | 141.1                    | 80.8         | 1 282.2      | 122.0        |
| March        | 438.6            | 36.3                       | 78.9                     | 13.7         | 567.6        | 1 457.0          | 155.1                    | 80.8         | 1 728.2      | 137.7        |

## % CHANGE (from corresponding period of previous year)

|             |      |     |       |       |     |      |     |       |      |       |
|-------------|------|-----|-------|-------|-----|------|-----|-------|------|-------|
| <b>1997</b> |      |     |       |       |     |      |     |       |      |       |
| March       | 14.6 | 0.5 | -28.4 | -32.7 | 3.3 | 28.4 | 6.9 | -13.4 | 25.8 | -16.2 |

## QUEENSLAND—HOUSING FINANCE FOR OWNER OCCUPATION

## AUSTRALIA—INTEREST RATES

|              | <i>All banks</i> | <i>Permanent building societies</i> | <i>Other lenders</i> | <i>Total</i> | <i>Housing loans for owner occupation</i> |
|--------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------|---|
| <i>Month</i> | \$m              | \$m                                 | \$m                  | \$m          | %   |
| <b>1996</b>  |                  |                                     |                      |              |   |
| December     | 560.5            | 39.4                                | 65.4                 | 665.3        | 8.3                                       |
| <b>1997</b>  |                  |                                     |                      |              |   |
| January      | 563.8            | 42.3                                | 57.5                 | 663.6        | 8.3                                       |
| February     | 636.1            | 52.9                                | 71.0                 | 760.0        | 7.6                                       |
| March        | 657.4            | 42.8                                | 60.6                 | 760.8        | 7.6                                       |

## % CHANGE (from corresponding period of previous year)

|             |     |       |       |      |    |
|-------------|-----|-------|-------|------|----|
| <b>1997</b> |     |       |       |      |    |
| March       | 8.2 | -60.1 | -13.7 | -3.1 | .. |

<sup>1</sup> Source: Reserve Bank of Australia. <sup>2</sup> Including certificates of deposit. <sup>3</sup> Excluding non-resident lending.



## BUSINESS EXPECTATIONS

AUSTRALIA..... QUEENSLAND

TRADING PERFORMANCE..... INVESTMENT... EMPLOY- OPERATING INTERNATIONAL-  
MENT EXPENSES TRADE ..... SALES

| Quarter   | Sales | Selling prices | Profit | Capital | Stocks |      |     | Imports | Exports |      |
|---|-------|----------------|--------|---------|--------|------|-----|---------|---------|------|
| SHORT-TERM OUTLOOK—Expected aggregate change from the previous quarter (%)                            |       |                |        |         |        |      |     |         |         |      |
| <b>1996</b>   |       |                |        |         |        |      |     |         |         |      |
| September   | 1.6   | 0.2            | 4.2    | 2.0     | 0.2    | 0.3  | 1.3 | 2.7     | 2.6     | 1.4  |
| December  | 1.6   | 0.2            | 3.7    | 2.6     | -0.6   | 0.3  | 1.4 | 1.4     | 2.6     | 1.2  |
| <b>1997</b>   |       |                |        |         |        |      |     |         |         |      |
| March   | 0.4   | 0.1            | -2.9   | 5.8     | 0.1    | -0.4 | 0.8 | 0.5     | 0.6     | -0.4 |
| June  | 1.6   | 0.3            | 7.8    | 3.4     | -0.3   | ..   | 1.0 | 5.9     | 1.6     | 1.4  |
| MEDIUM-TERM OUTLOOK—Expected aggregate change from the corresponding quarter of the previous year (%) |       |                |        |         |        |      |     |         |         |      |
| <b>1997</b>   |       |                |        |         |        |      |     |         |         |      |
| June  | 3.6   | 1.5            | 13.5   | 1.1     | 0.4    | 0.5  | 2.2 | 2.8     | 5.2     | 3.6  |
| September   | 3.1   | 1.2            | 10.1   | 6.6     | ..     | 0.8  | 2.4 | 3.6     | 4.7     | 2.5  |
| December  | 3.1   | 0.9            | 9.6    | 1.2     | ..     | 0.3  | 2.2 | 2.1     | 3.4     | 3.3  |
| <b>1998</b>   |       |                |        |         |        |      |     |         |         |      |
| March   | 2.9   | 0.9            | 12.2   | 3.2     | 0.3    | 0.5  | 1.8 | 3.0     | 3.8     | 2.8  |

AUSTRALIA.....

ACTUAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE.....

| Period         | New buildings and structures | Equipment, plant and machinery | Total  |
|----------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------|
|                | \$m                          | \$m                            | \$m    |
| <b>1995-96</b> | 8 630                        | 25 692                         | 34 321 |
| <b>1996-97</b> | 11 875                       | 26 727                         | 38 601 |

AUSTRALIA.....

EXPECTED CAPITAL EXPENDITURE<sup>1</sup>.....

| Period                       | New buildings and structures | Equipment, plant and machinery | Total  |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------|
|                              | \$m                          | \$m                            | \$m    |
| <b>6 months to June 1997</b> | 7 757                        | 13 655                         | 21 413 |
| <b>1996-97</b>               | 14 711                       | 28 285                         | 42 996 |
| <b>1997-98</b>               | 12 798                       | 21 885                         | 34 683 |

<sup>1</sup> Not directly comparable with estimates of actual capital expenditure due to likely over/under realisation.

# EXPLANATORY NOTES

|   |   |                        |
|---|---|------------------------|
| *****                                       |   |                        |
| INTRODUCTION                                | <p><b>1</b> This publication contains latest estimates for a comprehensive range of economic indicators. Statistics shown in this publication are the latest available at the date of preparation. In a number of cases figures appearing in this publication are preliminary and are subject to revision in subsequent issues. Reference should therefore always be made to the latest issue or to the statistical publication on the specific subject.</p>  |                        |
| SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT<br>AND TREND ESTIMATION | <p><b>2</b> Seasonal adjustment is a means of removing the estimated effects of normal seasonal variation from the series so that the effects of other influences on the series can be more clearly recognised. Seasonal adjustment does not aim to remove the irregular or non-seasonal influences which may be present in any particular month. This means that month-to-month movements of the seasonally adjusted estimates may not be reliable indicators of trend behaviour.</p> <p><b>3</b> The smoothing of seasonally adjusted series reduces the impact of the irregular components of the seasonally adjusted series and creates trend estimates. These trend estimates are derived by applying a 13-term Henderson-weighted moving average to all months except the last six. The last six monthly trend estimates are obtained by applying surrogates of the Henderson average to the seasonally adjusted series. Trend series are used to analyse the underlying behaviour of the series over time.</p> <p><b>4</b> While this smoothing technique enables estimates to be produced for the latest month, it does result in revisions to the most recent months as additional observations become available. Generally, subsequent revisions become smaller and after 3 months have a negligible impact on the series. Revisions also occur as a result of the annual review of seasonal factors.</p> <p><b>5</b> Users may wish to refer to the ABS Publication: <i>A Guide to Interpreting Time Series — Monitoring 'Trends', An Overview</i> (1348.0) for more detailed information on smoothing seasonally adjusted time series data.</p> |                        |
| COMPOSITE LEADING INDICATOR                 | <p><b>6</b> The ABS has developed an experimental Composite Leading Indicator (CLI) which summarises the early signals contained in a selection of economic indicators. The CLI is calculated as a simple average of the short-medium term movements in eight indicators. On average during the 1970s and 1980s, the CLI led turning points in the GDP(A) growth cycle by around two quarters, but the lead time for individual peaks and troughs varied considerably.</p> <p><b>7</b> Expansions and slow downs in activity are measured relative to the historical long-term trend; thus <i>peaks and troughs in the CLI provide early signals of turning points in the growth cycle</i>, not signals of recessions and recoveries.</p>   |                        |
| RELATED PUBLICATIONS                        | <p><b>8</b> Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the <i>Catalogue of Publications and Products</i> (1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, the <i>Release Advice</i> (1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The Catalogue and <i>Release Advice</i> are available from any ABS office.</p>  |                        |
| UNPUBLISHED STATISTICS                      | <p><b>9</b> As well as the statistics included in this and related publications, the ABS may have other relevant unpublished data available. Inquiries should be made to Information Inquiries on (07) 3222 6351 or to any ABS office.</p>  |                        |
| EFFECTS OF ROUNDING                         | <p><b>10</b> Estimates have been rounded and discrepancies may occur between totals and sums of the component items.</p>  |                        |
| SYMBOLS AND OTHER USAGES                    | n.a.  | not available          |
|   | n.y.a.  | not yet available      |
|   | ..  | not applicable         |
|   | —   | nil or rounded to zero |

## FOR MORE INFORMATION...

The ABS publishes a wide range of information on Australia's economic and social conditions. A catalogue of publications and products is available from any of our offices (see below).

### INFORMATION CONSULTANCY SERVICES

Information tailored to special needs of clients can be obtained from the Information Consultancy Service available at ABS Offices (see below).

### ABS PRODUCTS

A large number of ABS products is available from the ABS Bookshops (see below). The ABS also provides a subscription service – you can telephone the ABS Subscription Service Australia wide toll free on 1800 0206 08.

### ELECTRONIC SERVICES

A large range of data is available via on-line services, diskette, magnetic tape, tape cartridge and CD ROM. For more details about our electronic data services, contact any ABS office (see below) or e-mail us at:

\* [client.services@abs.gov.au](mailto:client.services@abs.gov.au)

### GENERAL SALES AND INQUIRIES

- |                          |                         |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| * Sydney 02 9268 4611    | * Adelaide 08 8237 7100 |
| * Melbourne 03 9615 7755 | * Hobart 03 6222 5800   |
| * Brisbane 07 3222 6351  | * Darwin 08 8943 2111   |
| * Perth 08 9360 5140     | * Canberra 06 252 6627  |

- Information Services, ABS  
PO Box 10, Belconnen ACT 2616



2130730006978

ISSN 0819-2928

RRP \$14.50